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AS A BABY, HE ESCAPED THE EXPLOSION THAT DESTROYED HIS HOME WORLD-- KRYPTON!

ANDRU & GIORDANO

BUT TODAY, MANY YEARS LATER, THE BLAST CATCHES UP WITH SUPERMAN, AS

"KRYPTON DIES AGAIN!"

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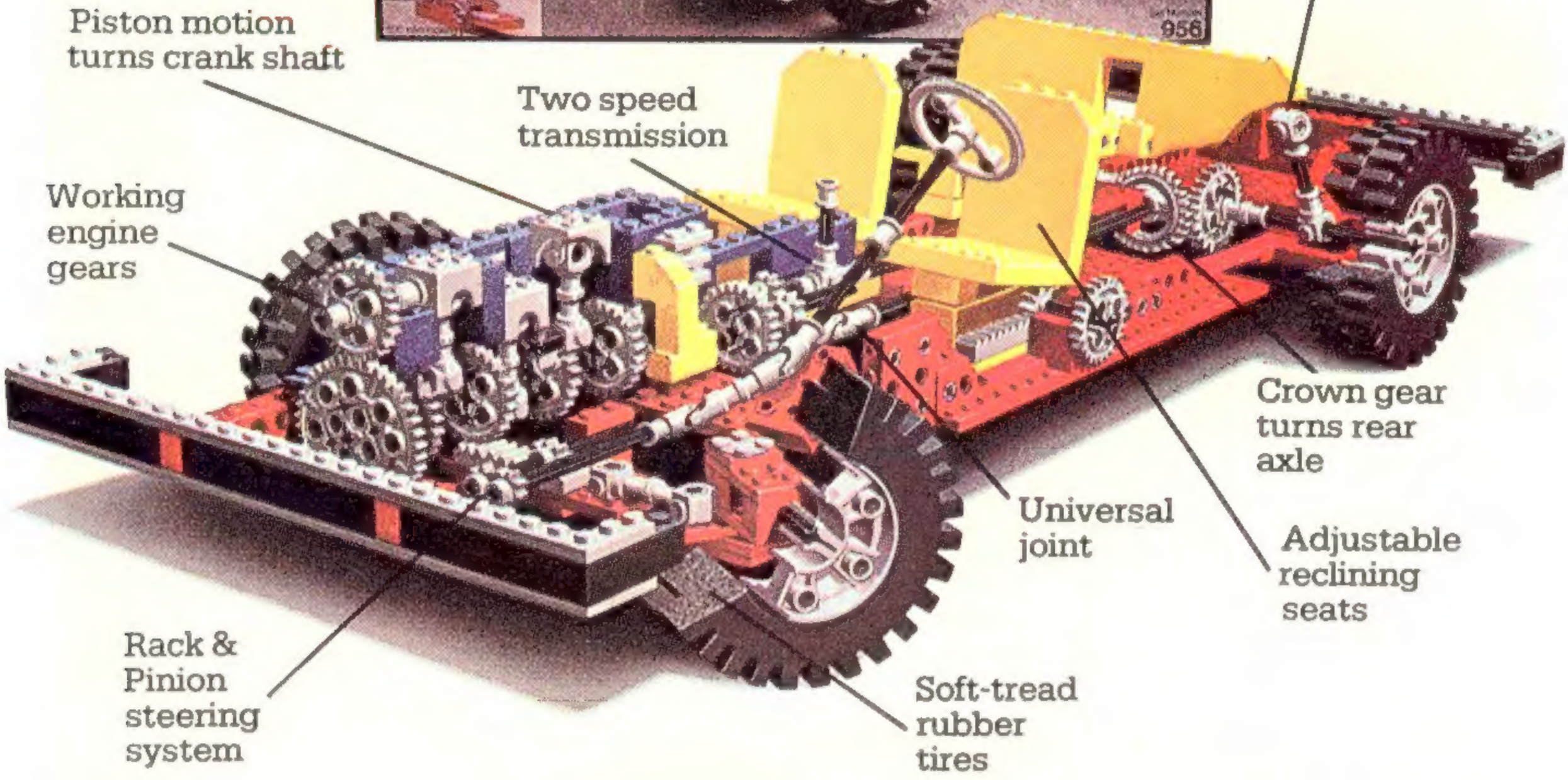

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ROCKETED AS A BABY FROM THE EXPLODING PLANET *KRYPTON*, *KAL-EL* GREW TO MANHOOD ON *EARTH*--WHOSE YELLOW SUN AND LIGHTER GRAVITY GAVE HIM FANTASTIC *SUPER-POWERS!* IN THE CITY OF *METROPOLIS*, HE POSES AS MILD-MANNERED TV NEWSMAN *CLARK KENT*--BUT BATTLES EVIL ALL OVER *EARTH*--AND *BEYOND*--AS...

SUPERMAN

Created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER

OF COURSE THIS SCENE IS *IMPOSSIBLE*, YOU SAY! AFTER ALL, IT IS WELL-KNOWN THAT *SUPERMAN* WAS A MERE *INFANT* WHEN HE ESCAPED THE DESTRUCTION OF HIS HOME PLANET *KRYPTON* IN A FAR-OFF SOLAR SYSTEM!

BUT *WAIT, WE* SAY! WHAT IF WE WERE TO TELL YOU THAT THIS TRAGIC *DAY OF DESTRUCTION* HAS *PERPETUATED* ITSELF ACROSS THE COSMOS TO *HAUNT* AND *PLAGUE* THE *MAN OF STEEL* ON HIS ADOPTED PLANET *EARTH*--RIGHT *HERE* AND *NOW*?

5-2991

PREPARE YOURSELF--FOR YOU AND THE REST OF THE *WORLD* WILL BE *WATCHING* WHEN...

"KRYPTON DIES AGAIN!"

WRITER: CARY BATES PENCILLER: CURT SWAN LETTERER: BEN ODA
EDITOR: JULIUS SCHWARTZ INKER: FRANK CHIARAMONTE COLORIST: GENE D'ANGELO

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BEAU-TI-FUL! WHAT DO YOU THINK, JOSH?

LOOKS LIKE A *PERFECT TAKE* TO ME!

ONCE WE LAY IN THE *STARS* WITH A *FRONT-PROJECTION SCREEN*--IT'LL LOOK JUST LIKE THE *REAL THING!*

HMMM...DO YOU THINK A *SLOW-MOTION* EFFECT WOULD HIGHLIGHT THE *IMPACT* OF THE *EXPLOSION?*

BUT LET US LEAVE THE *WGBS-TV* STUDIOS FOR THE *MOMENT*...

...TO SEE WHAT'S GOING *DOWN* AT *METRO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT*...

MAYDAY! MAYDAY! OUR *ENGINES WON'T SHUT OFF!*

WE'RE GOING TO PLOW RIGHT THROUGH THE *TERMINAL!*

MAYBE NOT! YOU SEE WHAT I SEE, HICKS?

--IN GLORIOUS *LIVING COLOR, CAPTAIN!*

HOLD ON TO YOUR *SEAT*, HICKS! HE'S *SLOWING* US DOWN--

--EVEN THOUGH ALL THREE ENGINES ARE STILL ON *FULL BURN!*

NO WONDER THEY CALL HIM *SUPERMAN!*

LOOK AT THE GAUGES-- OUR ENGINES HAVE JUST *SHUT THEMSELVES OFF!*

NOT *REALLY!* I'LL LAY ODDS *SUPERMAN* USED HIS *HEAT VISION* TO *SEVER* THE MALFUNCTIONING CIRCUITS WHILE HE WAS *BRAKING* US!

WHEW! IS THERE *ANYTHING* THAT GUY *CAN'T* DO?

AND BACK AT THE *GALAXY BUILDING*...

HERE WE GO *AGAIN*, GANG!

SUPERMAN JUST SAVED AN OUT-OF-CONTROL JETLINER AT *METRO INTERNATIONAL! ADD 285 LIVES* TO THE *LIST!*

ORLD PRESS

GREAT CAESAR'S GHOST!

FIRST IT'S A CAPSIZING *OCEAN LINER* IN THE CARIBBEAN... THEN IT'S A *RESORT TOWN* IN *ITALY* ABOUT TO BE SCORCHED BY AN ERUPTING *VOLCANO*...

... FOLLOWED BY A *TIDAL WAVE* HE VAPORIZED AS IT WAS ABOUT TO HIT THE COAST OF *JAPAN!*

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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CONVERSE
THE SHOES OF THE STARS

an Eltra company

AND *NOW* A COMMERCIAL JET RIGHT HERE IN *METROPOLIS!*

IN THE PAST *SIX HOURS* ALONE, *SUPERMAN* MUST HAVE *SAVED* OVER A *MILLION LIVES* ACROSS THE GLOBE! THAT *HAS* TO BE SOME KIND OF *RECORD!*

THAT'S WHAT *BOTHERS* ME, PERRY--

--THERE'S A *LIMIT* TO HOW MUCH EVEN A *SUPERMAN* CAN DO! BUT THE PAST FEW DAYS HE'S BEEN *PUSHING* HIMSELF LIKE THERE'S NO *TOMORROW!*

HMMMM... NOW THAT I *THINK* ABOUT IT... MAYBE *TOMORROW* IS THE *PROBLEM!*

WHADYA *THINK*, CHIEF--

--*HERE* IT IS, JUST THE WAY YOU WANTED IT--A DUMMY OF THE *PLANET* HEADLINE FOR *TOMORROW!*

IT LOOKS FINE, JIMMY... BUT IF I MIGHT MAKE *ONE* SUGGESTION--

--DON'T CALL ME CHIEF!!

DAILY PLANET

KRYPTON EXPLODES AT 10:17 TONIGHT!

WHILE IN THE VAST WATERS OF THE *SOUTH PACIFIC*...

WE'RE IN *TROUBLE!* OUR FIRING MECHANISM *MALFUNCTIONED*... SENDING A *MISSILE* UP--

--CARRYING A *LIVE NUCLEAR WARHEAD!*

ONLY ONE THING TO DO--*DETONATE* IMMEDIATELY!

BUT, CAPTAIN--AT THIS LOW ALTITUDE, THOUSANDS OF SQUARE MILES OF OCEAN WILL BE *CONTAMINATED!*

CAN'T BE *HELPED*-- WE MUST NOT ALLOW THAT MISSILE TO GET EVEN *REMOTELY* CLOSE TO *LAND!*

CAPTAIN! I SEE SOMETHING *STRANGE*... *INCREDIBLE*... HAPPENING ON *MY SCOPE!*

WHAT ARE YOU *BABBLING* ABOUT, ENSIGN?

THE *MISSILE*-- IT SUDDENLY *SHOT UP* BEYOND THE RANGE OF OUR *RADAR*--AS IF SOMETHING *YANKED* IT ABOVE OUR PERIMETER--

--SO *FAST* I COULD HARDLY KEEP TRACK OF IT!

GOOD LORD! IF IT'S FLYING OUT OF CONTROL--! GIVE THE ORDER TO--

DETONATE!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

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UNSCATHED, THE INVULNERABLE *MAN OF STEEL* SURGES AWAY FROM THE *100-MEGATON* BLAST UNFURLING HARMLESSLY ABOVE THE ATMOSPHERE...

...COMPLETELY UNAWARE HE IS BEING *WATCHED*...

BUT TARGETED BY *WHAT*--?

--OR BY *WHOM*--??

AND IN A NEARBY OBSERVATORY--

HELLO, *WGBS*! WE NEED TO KNOW IF WE'RE COMING IN *BRIGHT* AND *CLEAR* IN *METROPOLIS*!

THE RECEPTION HERE IS *MAGNIFICENT*, PROF. WILSON!

COULD YOU PUT *CLARK KENT* ON FOR A MOMENT, PROFESSOR?

SORRY, MR. EDGE... YOUR *MAN KENT* NEVER SHOWED UP!

BLAST! I ASSIGNED KENT TO THE *OBSERVATORY* TO WATCH OVER THE TRANSMISSION HOOK-UP AT THE *MOUNT OLYMPUS* END!

WHERE THE BLAZES COULD HE *BE*?

RELAX, MORGAN! YOU KNOW CLARK-- WITH HIS LUCK HE'S STRANDED ON A MOUNTAIN ROAD TO THE OBSERVATORY WITH A FLAT TIRE!

...AND YOU CAN BE SURE A FLAT TIRE IS TOO MUCH FOR MR. "ALL-THUMBS" TO HANDLE!

WHATEVER HIS EXPLANATION IS -- IT BETTER BE A GOOD ONE!

WHILE IN THE JUSTICE LEAGUE SATELLITE, IN ORBIT 22,300 MILES ABOVE EARTH...

WE'RE SORRY IF GREEN LANTERN'S POWER BEAM STARTLED YOU, PAL --

--BUT WE WANTED TO HAVE WORDS WITH YOU BEFORE YOU RUSHED OFF TO ANOTHER CRISIS!

IT'S ABOUT THIS RECENT OVERWHELMING COMPULSION OF YOURS TO KEEP CONSTANTLY BUSY!

SO BUSY YOU'VE BEEN IGNORING OUR EFFORTS TO CONTACT YOU VIA YOUR JLA SIGNAL DEVICE!

WE FIGURE WE KNOW WHY YOU WANT TO STAY OCCUPIED... IT'S BECAUSE YOU DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT TOMORROW ...ABOUT WHAT IT WILL BRING!

DO NOT FORGET THAT I, TOO, AM AN ALIEN! IF IT WERE MY HOME PLANET THANAGAR, I HOPE I COULD DISPLAY THE SAME KIND OF COURAGE!

DON'T YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT, CLARK--?

FOR AN AGONIZING MOMENT, THE SOMBER MAN OF MIGHT REMAINS SILENT-- AND THEN...

YRUBB ORUTOO DA YREEMB UYON-- KRYPTONIU EWYRR!

GREAT GUARDIANS! IT SOUNDED LIKE *SUPERMAN* WAS TALKING TO US IN *KRYPTONESE*-- BUT *WHY?*

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE HERE WHO SPEAKS THE LANGUAGE FLUENTLY, *BATMAN*-- WHAT'S *WITH* HIM?

HE SAID THE USE OF HIS *NATIVE TONGUE* IS A RESPECTFUL *ACKNOWLEDGEMENT* OF TOMORROW'S *TRAGEDY!*

THAT'S *NOT ALL*-- HE TOLD ME THE *OTHER REASON* HE'S BEEN PUSHING HIMSELF ON THIS CONSTANT *WORLD-WIDE ALERT!*

BUT THE *WORST* PART OF IT IS--HE SAYS THERE'S *ABSOLUTELY NOTHING* ANY OF *US* CAN DO TO *HELP!*

LANA LANG, FOR *WGBS!* WOULD YOU MIND TELLING US WHAT *YOU'LL* BE DOING *TOMORROW NIGHT* AT 17 MINUTES PAST *10?*

WATCHING TV, OF COURSE! I WOULDN'T MISS IT FOR THE WORLD!

ANYBODY CAN CATCH IT ON THE TUBE! ME, I'M GONNA STAY OUTSIDE AND SPOT IT IN THE *SKY* WITH MY *HIGH-POWERED BINOCULARS!*

STEVE LOMBARD, WGBS SPORTS! HOW ABOUT *YOU,* SLUGGER-- YOU GONNA BE LOOKING FOR THE *BIG BURST* IN THE SKY TOMORROW NIGHT?

NAH! I'LL BE IN BED! BESIDES--*NO WAY* IT'LL EVEN *COME CLOSE* TO THE *EXPLOSIONS* IN *STAR WARS!*

SEVERAL THOUSAND MILES NORTHWEST IS THE ARCTIC FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE WHICH SERVES AS SUPERMAN'S SECRET SANCTUARY...

...AND A REFUGE FOR THE SHRUNKEN BOTTLE-CITY OF *KANDOR*--WHOSE *MICROSCOPIC* INHABITANTS ARE AMONG THE LAST SURVIVING MEMBERS OF THE KRYPTONIAN RACE!

AND ALTHOUGH ALL APPEARS NORMAL AMONG THE FUTURISTIC SPIRES OF THE *MINIATURE CITY*...

...*NOWHERE* ON THE FACE OF *EARTH* WILL THE *SIGNIFICANCE* OF THE *DAY TO COME* BE MORE DEEPLY *FELT*...

...OR MORE DEEPLY *GRIEVED*...

PLEASE DON'T MISUNDERSTAND US--IT'S NOT THAT WE DON'T SHARE YOUR OVERWHELMING *TRUST* IN YOUR COUSIN--

--BUT YOU MUST ADMIT WE *DO* HAVE REASON TO SHOW *DISPLEASURE!**

*THE *KANDORIANS* ARE SPEAKING *KRYPTONESE* OF COURSE! THIS CONVERSATION HAS BEEN *TRANSLATED* FOR THE READER. --*JULIE*

EXCEPT FOR *KAL-EL*,* EVERY *KRYPTONIAN* ON EARTH IS HERE IN *KANDOR* AND WEARING A CEREMONIAL *BLACK HEADBAND* TO COMMEMORATE THE *MEMORY* OF OUR *LOST HOME!*

AT LEAST *YOU, KARA*,* SHOWED ENOUGH *RESPECT* TO *JOIN* US FOR TOMORROW'S *DAY OF MOURNING!*

*KAL-EL AND *KARA* ARE THE KRYPTONIAN NAMES OF *SUPERMAN* AND *SUPERGIRL*!--J.S

KAL IS *NOT* FORSAKING HIS *HERITAGE, DRYGUR MOLIOM**...IT'S ONLY HIS INTENSE *DEVOTION* TO THE PEOPLE OF *EARTH* THAT PREVENTS HIM FROM BEING *HERE* WITH US NOW!

BUT SURELY *KAL-EL* COULD HAVE LEFT THE OUTSIDE WORLD IN THE CAPABLE HANDS OF HIS *JUSTICE LEAGUE* COMRADES FOR JUST *ONE DAY!*

**MOLIOM* – MEMBER OF THE RULING SCIENCE COUNCIL. *DRYGUR* – LEADER THE DRYGUR MOLIOM HEADS THE SCIENCE COUNCIL. -- J.S.

NOT EVEN *ONE MINUTE*-- CONSIDERING *WHO* HAS BEEN STALKING THE SKIES OF *EARTH* FOR THE PAST *WEEK*--

--AN *ENEMY* SO *DANGEROUS*, *KAL* HAS BEEN MAINTAINING A *NON-STOP PATROL* IN HOPES OF *INTERCEPTING* HIM *BEFORE* THE *BATTLE* BEGINS!

BUT, *KARA*-- *WHO* COULD POSSIBLY POSE *THAT* BIG A *THREAT* TO THE SAFETY OF AN ENTIRE *PLANET*?

I'M AFRAID THE PEOPLE OF *KANDOR* ASKED THE VERY *SAME QUESTION* WHEN HE PAID A *VISIT* TO *KRYPTON*... *MANY YEARS* AGO!

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CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

ADVERTISEMENT

BATMAN

BATMAN HAS A PRACTICAL FOE: CAPT. STINGAREE

AND THE CORSAIR OF CRIME

THE CORSAIR OF CRIME IS HOLDING COMMISSIONER GORDON AND CHIEF O'HARA AS HOSTAGES?

RIGHT, ROBIN... HE'S DEMANDING THAT GOTHAM CITY TURN OVER THE SUPER CRUISE LINER *EMPRESS* FOR THEIR RETURN. IT'S UP TO US TO CHANGE HIS PLANS.

BUT IT IS BATMAN'S PLANS THAT GO AWRY AND WE FIND THE CAPED CRUSADER SURROUNDED BY THE CORSAIR OF CRIME AND HIS CREW.

BATMAN, ME HEARTY, YOU'LL HAVE TO WALK THE PLANK.

IT'S GOING TO TAKE SPECIAL MEASURES TO GET BATMAN OUT OF THIS!

HEY, LOOK, *HOSTESS*® *FRUIT PIES. APPLE! CHERRY! PEACH!*

KEEP YOUR EYES ON BATMAN, FOOL.

I'D RATHER GET MY HANDS ON THE *LIGHT, TENDER CRUST.*

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GREAT THINKING, ROBIN.

TELL YOUR CREW TO RELEASE THE HOSTAGES OR TAKE A BATH, CORSAIR.

CORSAIR, YOU'LL GET YOURS... ABOUT 10 YEARS.

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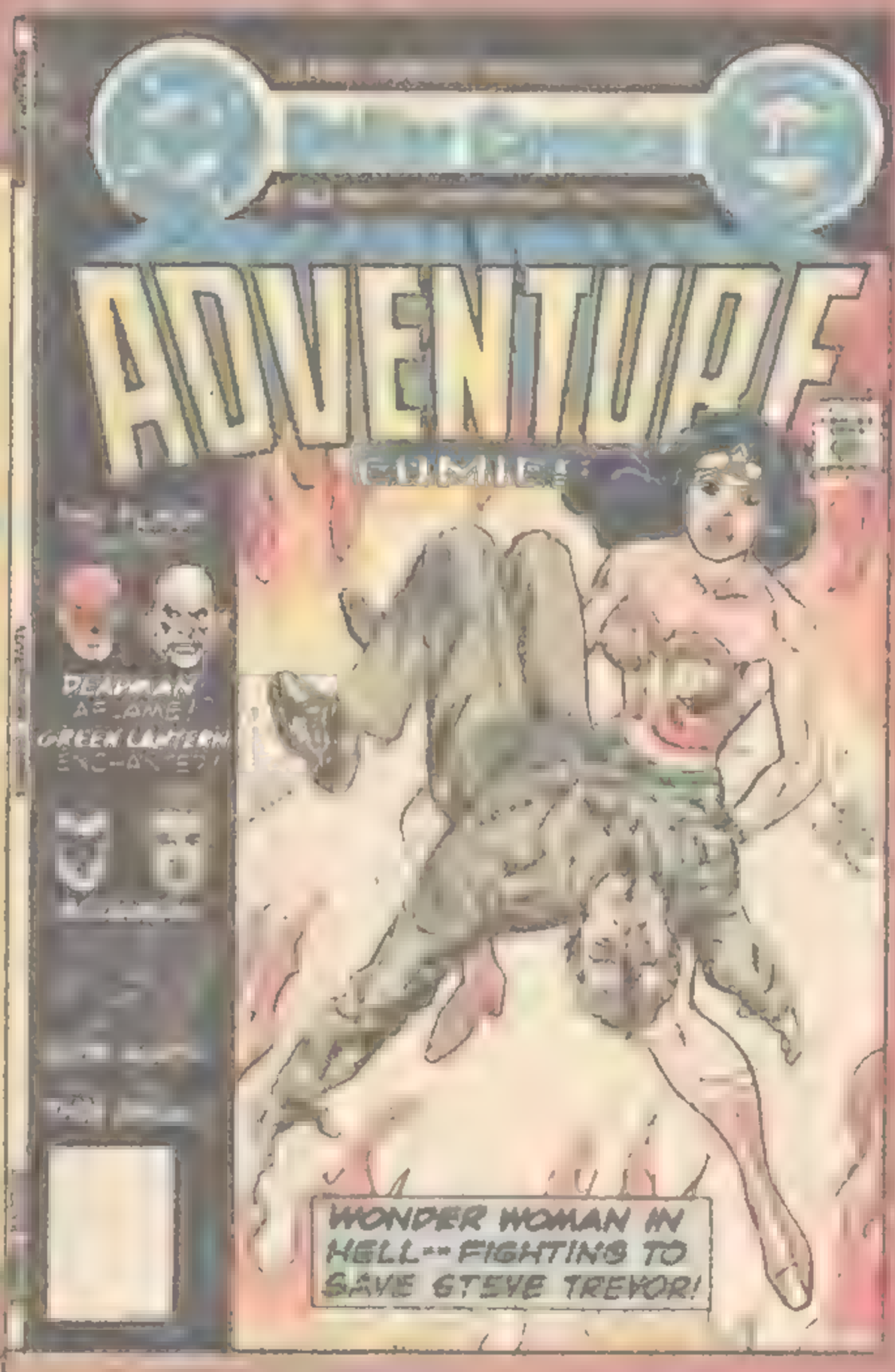

ZATANNA

JOINS

THE *JUSTICE LEAGUE!!*

...OR DOES SHE?

UNCOVER HER STARTLING SECRET

in *JUSTICE LEAGUE of AMERICA #161...*

ON SALE
SEPTEMBER 5th!

GREAT RAO! YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE *WALKING GREEN SCOURGE* WHO RIPPED *KANDOR* FROM *KRYPTON* AND *IMPRISONED* US INSIDE THIS INFERNAL *BOTTLE*--

--*BRAINIAC!*

FIFTEEN HOURS LATER-- OVER THE BLEAK PLAINS OF THE AMERICAN *SOUTHWEST*--A FRENETIC *CHASE* HAS JUST *BEGUN*...

IT WAS *INEVITABLE* OUR PATHS WOULD *CROSS* SOONER OR LATER, *SUPERMAN*--

--IN LIGHT OF THE WAY YOU HAVE BEEN DILIGENTLY *SCOURING* THE SKIES EVER SINCE YOU RECEIVED *MY CHALLENGE!*

I TRUST YOU *CAUTIONED* YOUR *JUSTICE LEAGUE* COLLEAGUES AGAINST *INTERFERING* WITH OUR BATTLE!

I HAVE NO WISH TO DETONATE THE PRE-SET *COSMIC BOMBS* I WARNED YOU ABOUT!

THIS *ENCOUNTER* WILL BE STRICTLY BETWEEN *YOU* AND *ME*-- *MAN OF STEEL* AGAINST *ANDROID OF STEEL!*

I REALIZE YOU 'ARE *COMPELLED* TO SPEAK ONLY *KRYPTONESE* ON THIS MOST *TRAGIC* AND *SOLEMN* DAY--

--BUT FEEL *FREE* TO DO SO! MY *12TH-LEVEL COMPUTER MIND* CAN DECIPHER *ANY* LANGUAGE!

A PITY ABOUT OUR TIMING, THOUGH--MY CHRONOMETER SHOWS IT'S ALREADY 10:05 METROPOLIS TIME!

IT LOOKS AS IF YOU WILL BE TOO OCCUPIED WITH ME TO PAY YOUR PROPER RESPECTS WHEN THE BIG BURST FINALLY ARRIVES!

...AND ALTHOUGH THIS SIMULATED EXPLOSION WAS RECREATED HERE IN OUR STUDIOS, COURTESY OF OUR SPECIAL EFFECTS PEOPLE--

--IT GIVES YOU SOME IDEA OF THE CATASTROPHIC HOLOCAUST WHICH RIPPED THROUGH THE DISTANT RED SUN SYSTEM OF SUPERMAN'S BIRTH!

THE STARS IN THE NIGHT SKY ARE SO FAR AWAY IT TAKES MANY YEARS FOR THEIR TWINKLING LIGHT TO BECOME VISIBLE TO US HERE ON EARTH!

AND EVEN THOUGH KRYPTON'S DESTRUCTION OCCURRED WHEN SUPERMAN WAS A SMALL CHILD...

...THE BRILLIANT BURST OF LIGHT FROM THE EXPLOSION HAS BEEN TRAVELING TOWARD US THROUGH THE GALAXY ALL THIS TIME!*

*BABY KAL-EL'S ROCKET ARRIVED ON EARTH ONLY A FEW DAYS AFTER KRYPTON BLEW UP BECAUSE THE ROCKET WAS DESIGNED TO CREATE A SPACE-WARP! --JULIE

THANK YOU, OSCAR! THAT WAS OSCAR ASHERMAN, OUR WGBS SCIENCE EDITOR!

WELL, LANA, I SEE BY OUR GIANT CLOCK ON THE WALL THAT THE BIG MOMENT IS NOW ONLY FIVE MINUTES AWAY!

MAKE THAT FOUR MINUTES, STEVE!

BUT I SUPPOSE THE BIG QUESTION ON EVERYONE'S MIND HAS TO DO WITH SUPERMAN--WHEREVER HE IS!

HOW AND WHERE WILL HE BE SPENDING THESE MOST SOLEMN OF MOMENTS?

GOOD QUESTION--LET'S SEE THE *ANSWER*...

I WISH YOU WOULD UTTER SOME KIND OF SOUND, *KRYPTONIAN*-- IF ONLY AN AGONIZED *GROAN!*

I *MISS* YOUR USUAL *SEETHING* COMMENTS!

ALTHOUGH THE *MAN OF TOMORROW* REMAINS SILENT--HIS *ACTIONS* SPEAK FAR LOUDER THAN ANY POSSIBLE *WORDS*...

WHAT IS *THIS*--?

YOU ACTUALLY SEEM TO BE *BOOSTING* THE POWER OF MY SURPRISE *ENERGY-BLAST* WITH INTENSE BEAMS OF *HEAT VISION*--

--AND NOW YOU *DARE* TO HURL MY OWN WEAPON *BACK* AT ME?

I DEDUCE YOU ARE PLANNING TO CATCH *ME* OFF-GUARD JUST AS *I* MANAGED TO CATCH *YOU*--

--BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, MY *DEFENSE* IS EVEN STRONGER THAN MY *OFFENSE!*

NOTHING CAN PENETRATE MY SHIP'S *FORCE-FIELD* --NOT MY *OWN* *WEAPONS*--

--NOT *EVEN* *YOU!*

BUT SEARCHERS, THE LONG-AWAITED MOMENT APPROACHES...

WE'RE ALL WAITING *BREATHLESSLY* AT THIS END, PROF WILSON! WHAT'S THE WORD FROM YOU AND YOUR TEAM AT MT. OLYMPUS?

93 SECONDS AND COUNTING, LANA! IF ANYONE THERE AT *WGBS* FEELS LIKE GOING OUT FOR *POPCORN*--

--TELL THEM THEY'RE *CRAZY!* ZERO HOUR IS ALMOST *ON TOP OF US!*

LESS THAN *ONE MINUTE* TO GO NOW, PROFESSOR!

FOR THOSE PEOPLE AT HOME JUST *TUNING IN*--LET US AGAIN MENTION THAT THESE CHOICE *SCREEN-SIDE SEATS* WENT FOR $1,000 EACH

--THE PROCEEDS GOING TO THE *METROPOLIS UNITED FUND!*

THROUGHOUT THE [illegible] IS BEING *BROADCAST* ACROSS THE VAST [illegible] NETWORK...

32 SECOUNDS AND COUNTING...

29 SECONDS...

EVEN ACROSS THE *OCEAN* TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD--VIA ORBITTING *COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES*...

21 SECONDS...

AND INSIDE A CERTAIN GLASS ENCASED WORLD OF [illegible] MOMENTS...

15 SECONDS...

...AN ENTIRE GENERATION [illegible] THE SHATTERED PLANET ITS *PARENTS* ONCE CALLED *HOME!*

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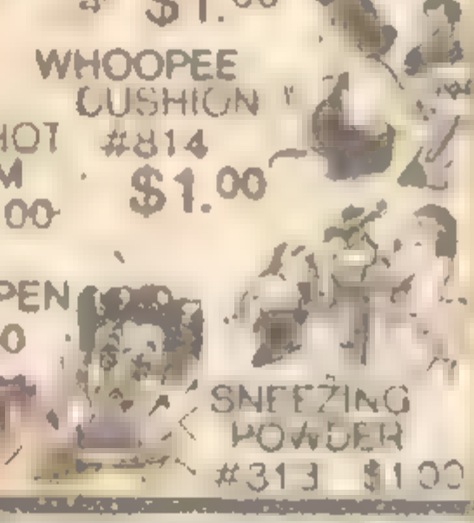

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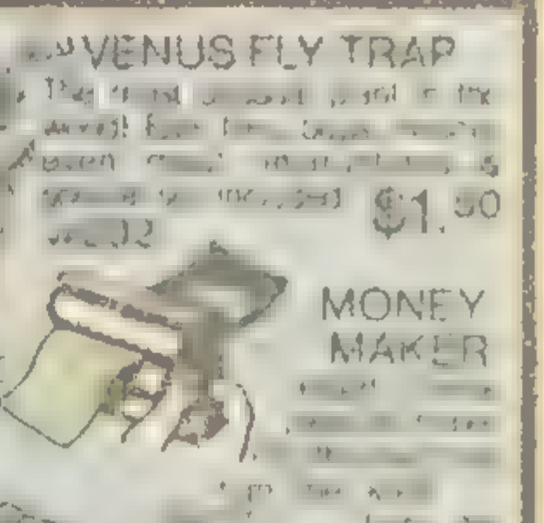

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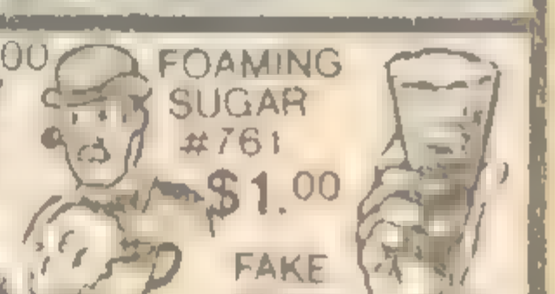

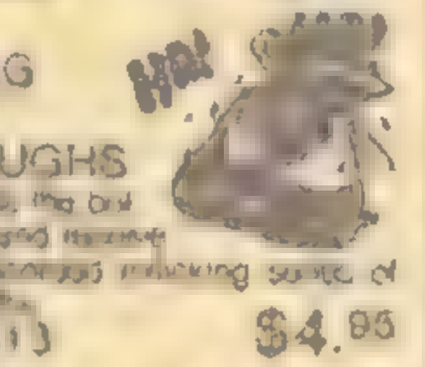

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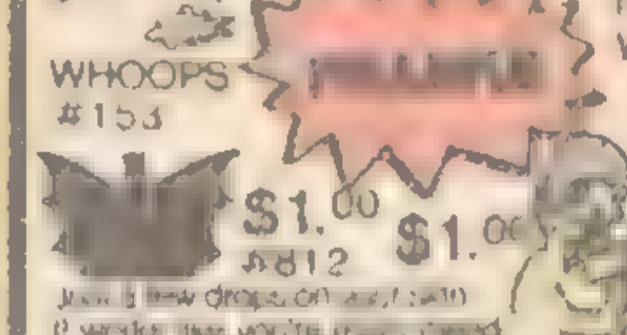

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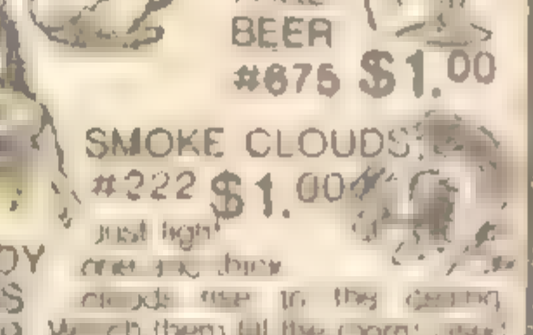

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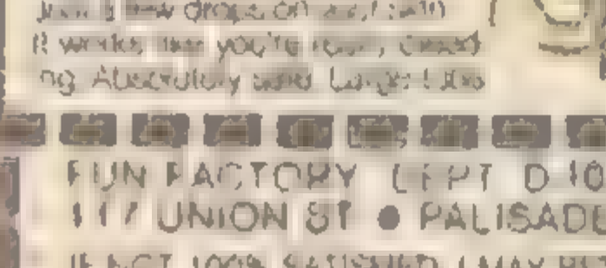

MYSTERY LIGHT BULB
This bulb, when held in hand, lights whenever desired. A conductor can't turn it off unless he knows the secret
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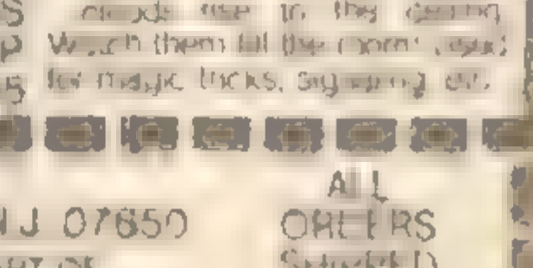

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BUGGY ICE CUBES
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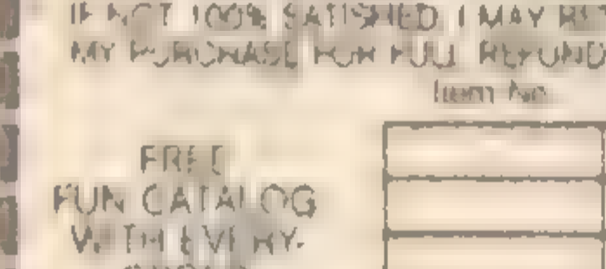

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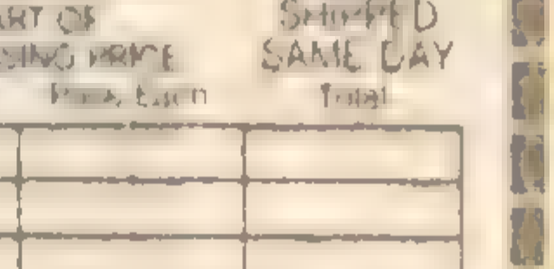

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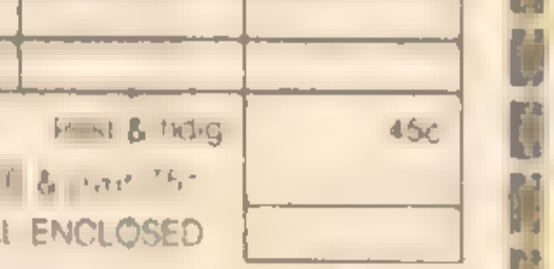

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HA HA HA HA HA!! IT'S THE INFAMOUS MILK DUDS SUPERDUDS SWEEPSTAKES!

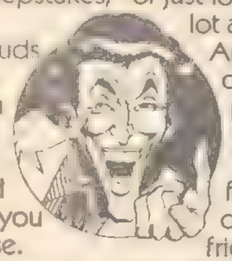
EAT THIS, YOU LILY-LIVERED SUPER-DO-GOODERS!!!

Superduds of America, unite!

Evildoers, take heart!

If all those (yecch!) superheroes can have their own sweepstakes, so can we. So there.

See the Infamous Milk Duds Superduds Sweepstakes entry blank? Of course you do. Just fill it out and put it in the mailbox.



And I never thought I'd be saying this, but be sure you follow all the rules. Or else.

A SUPERVILLAINOUS PLOT!

For you Milk Duds, Slo Poke, and Black Cow eaters out there, we're giving away a special super-speed Superdudprize. (Read all about it, a little later on.)

In the incomparably devious and fiendishly clever tradition of our dishonorable profession, we've also arranged to smuggle your entry into the Famous Clark Bar Superhero Sweepstakes. Where you'll have a chance to win all sorts of goodies at their expense.

And the first wise guy who says "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em" is going to get it, pow, right in the kisser.

THE DEVIOUS DIVIDENDS OF DUD-DOM!

Now for the spoils of victory. The rich rewards of wretchedness.

If you hit it really lucky and win first prize, you and your family (limit four people) will get to fly to New York City and back.

You'll stay for three days and two nights. All expenses paid.

You'll be taken on a personal tour of the DC Comics offices, where an artist will draw you right into an upcoming issue of your favorite DC comic. You'll be part of the action, along with one of the famous DC superheroes. (So, big deal.)

You'll have plenty of free time in Gotham, too. For seeing the Statue of Liberty, or taking boat rides, or just looking up at tall buildings a lot and saying "Wow!"

And, just as soon as your comic-book caper is published, you'll get 15 copies for your family and crummy friends. They'll be proud to know a famous person like you.

If you happen to be one of the 20 second-prize winners, you'll get your own Famous Superhero (Boo! Hiss!) or Infamous Superdud watch.

You'll have your pick of the ugl mugs of

Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman, or Spider-Man. Or (for those of you with refined tastes) the villainous visage of the Joker.

The watches are Swiss-made, with pictures in full color, and sell (a real steal) for $19.95 and $23.95.

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If you should be one of 100 third-prize winners, you'll get a year's subscription to your favorite DC or Marvel comic book. Ms. Marvel, Green Lantern, Thor, The Incredible Hulk, Captain America, Red Sonja, Plastic Man, Wonder Woman, Justice Society, you name it. Even that namby-pamby Little Lulu.

SPECIAL SUPER-SPEED GRAND AND VICTORIOUS SUPERDUDPRIZE!

Okay. We promised. So here it is. In addition to drawings for the prizes you've just read about, everybody who enters the Infamous Milk Duds Superduds Sweepstakes automatically gets entered in a special drawing.

And ten of those people, maybe even you, will win themselves Schwinn ten-speed bicycles.

Good for escaping from overzealous superheroes.

Of course, wrappers from Milk Duds, Slo Poke or Black Cow can also help you get all kinds of super premiums. Details are in the Famous Clark Bar ads.

So find yourself a pen or pencil, fill out the entry blank—the (ugh!) rules say you've got to print—and mail your entry back before November 1, 1978.

It's so simple, even a superhero could probably do it.

THE INFAMOUS MILK DUDS SUPERDUDS SWEEPSTAKES!

P.O. Box SS Chicago, Illinois 60677

Rules

1 To enter, type or print clearly your name, address and zip code on this official entry blank, or on a plain piece of 3" x 5" paper. You can enter as many times as you want, but [illegible] separately.

2 With each entry, send one wrapper from any [illegible] of Clark and Co.'s candy bars with the words Milk Duds printed [illegible] 3" x 5" paper. You can also send wrappers from Milk Duds, Slo Poke, Black Cow, Clark Candy Bar, Zagnut, Crunchy Light or Peanut Butter Log.)

3 Send entries to Superduds Sweepstakes, Box SS, Chicago, Illinois 60677.

4 Entries must be postmarked by November 1, 1978 and received by November 10, 1978.

5 [illegible] by H. Olsen & Company, an independent judging organization, whose decisions are final.

6 Prizes are non-transferable, and substitution of prizes is not allowed. Only one prize to a family. The odds of winning will be determined by the number of entries received. All prizes will be awarded.

7 This sweepstakes is open to all U.S. residents, except employees [illegible] Beatrice Foods, its advertising agencies, and H. Olsen & Company, void in Missouri, and wherever else prohibited by law. Subject to all Federal, state and local laws and regulations.

8 If you want a list of winners, send a separate stamped, self-addressed envelope to Box6260, Chicago, Illinois 60677.

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DC

SO THIS IS YOUR NEW STRATEGY--TO PUSH ME OFF EARTH... AND OUT OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM!

SO TYPICAL OF YOUR IRON WILL, SUPERMAN--

--BUT I HAVE OTHER PLANS!

THE IRRESISTIBLE FORCE THAT HAS JUST GRIPPED YOU IS A MOST UNUSUAL TYPE OF MAGNET--

--DESIGNED TO ATTRACT ONLY KRYPTONIAN MOLECULES!

IT IS SO POWERFUL THAT ANY STRUGGLING ON YOUR PART WOULD BE FUTILE!

NOW I SUGGEST YOU RELAX... AND THINK OF YOURSELF AS A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE!

I ASSURE YOU, SON OF KRYPTON, MY PRIMARY CONCERN AT THIS MOST CRUCIAL MOMENT IS THE SAME AS YOURS!

SEE -- I AM POSITIONING MY SHIP SO YOU WON'T MISS A GLIMMER OF IT! YES -- I WANT YOU TO HAVE A CLEAR AND UNOBSTRUCTED VIEW!

SEE IT, SUPERMAN!

SEE KRYPTON DIE AGAIN!!

LOOK AT IT-- LOOK AND LISTEN!

IF AN EARTH HUMAN LOOKS UP AT A SOLAR ECLIPSE WITHOUT PROTECTING HIS EYES--

--SEVERE DAMAGE IS DONE TO THE EYE... PERHAPS RESULTING IN BLINDNESS!

AND ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS..

...SHOULD A KRYPTONIAN BE UNFORTUNATE ENOUGH TO LOOK DIRECTLY INTO THE SUPER-INTENSE LIGHT OF KRYPTON'S EXPLOSION--

--HE, TOO, WILL SUFFER DAMAGE--

--DAMAGE A MILLION TIMES WORSE!

NOW THAT SUPERMAN'S EYES HAVE SEEN THE DEADLY LIGHT-- WHAT IS THE TERRIBLE PRICE HE MUST PAY? BE HERE NEXT ISSUE WHEN THERE IS

"NO TOMORROW FOR SUPERMAN"

ON SALE THE LAST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER!

FROM THE FALLEN FRAGMENT OF A **WHITE DWARF STAR,** SCIENTIST RAY PALMER FASHIONED A LENS WHICH GAVE HIM THE ABILITY TO SHRINK TO MICROSCOPIC SIZE! AFTER LEARNING TO CONTROL HIS WEIGHT AS WELL, HE DONNED THE COSTUME OF THE TINY TITAN, BATTLING CRIME AS...

THE ATOM

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BOB ROZAKIS

—PENCILLER—
ALEX SAVIUK

— INKER —
VINCE COLLETTA

—LETTERER—
MILT SNAPINN

— COLORIST —
GENE D'ANGELO

— EDITOR —
JULIUS SCHWARTZ

"WHAT DID YOU DO TONIGHT, *RAY?*"

"OH, NOTHING MUCH, DARLING -"

"-- I SPENT THE NIGHT INSIDE A *CHANDELIER,* KEEPING A *PLATINUM WRISTWATCH* COMPANY!"

NOT EXACTLY THE MOST *EXCITING* WAY FOR A *NEWLYWED* TO SPEND AN EVENING, BUT...

YEEP!

MAYBE YOU ARE SURPRISED BY WHAT'S GOING ON, READER-- BUT WE'LL BET YOU'RE NOT HALF AS STARTLED AS THE PERSON AT THE OTHER END OF THAT HAND!

STICK WITH US AND ALL WILL COME CLEAR AS THE WORLD'S SMALLEST SUPER-HERO LEARNS...

Where there's a WILL... there's a FRAY!

YUCHH!

I'VE GRABBED SOMETHING ALIVE...

...A MOUSE?!

A FLING TO THE FLOOR--

KLIK! KLIK!

GOT TO SWITCH TO LIGHT-WEIGHT, SOFTEN MY IMPACT--!

--STUNNING IT--

WHOOSH!

THWIP!

--AND A STOMP TO FINISH IT!

KLIK! KLIK!

ONLY ONE WAY TO AVOID BEING SQUASHED--

--MAKE MYSELF SO SMALL HIS BOOTS CAN'T MAKE CONTACT!

WHAM!

I'LL TEACH THIS CHARACTER--

KLIK... KLIK!

--TO PICK ON SOMEONE HIS OWN SIZE!

YAHHH!

ANOTHER MOUSE--JUMPING ON ME!?

THIS PLACE MUST BE CRAWLING WITH 'EM!!

GOT TO PICK UP THAT WATCH AND GET OUTA HERE!

OWW--! GRIPPING MY HEAD SO HARD...

...MAKING ME DIZZY!

KWAM!

AND AS THE ATOM SINKS INTO A SEMI-CONSCIOUS STATE, HIS THOUGHTS FLASH BACK TO EARLIER THAT DAY...

...AS ATTORNEY JEAN LORING PALMER READ THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF JOSEPH RAK (BORN RAKOWSKI), LATE PARTNER IN THE COMEDY TEAM OF RAK AND ROONEY!

"I, JOSEPH RAK, DO HEREBY BEQUEATH MY WORLDLY POSSESSIONS AS FOLLOWS..."

YOUR HERO ADDS ZAP, SPARKLE TO YOUR ROOM

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WHY DO I HAVE TO SIT HERE AND LISTEN TO THIS NONSENSE? EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT *RAK* AND I *HATED* EACH OTHER OFF-STAGE AND OFF-CAMERA...

MR. ROONEY, YOUR PARTNER SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED YOU BE HERE FOR THE READING OF THE WILL--

SO SHUT UP, ROONEY, AND LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH!

"MY PLATINUM WRISTWATCH, PRESENTED TO ME ON MY 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN *SHOW BUSINESS*..."

"...I LEAVE TO *LOU EDWARDS*, WHO HAD THE *TIME OF HIS LIFE*...AS MY *AGENT*!"

THAT'S ALL HE LEFT ME --THE *TIME* OF DAY?

"TO MY CHAUFFEUR, *ROBBY THORNTON*, I LEAVE MY *OSCAR*--"

"--IN THE HOPES THAT HE WILL SEE IT AS A SYMBOL OF WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY *HARD WORK*!"

:YAWN: BIG DEAL!

MUFFIN!

GRRR!

MUFFIN--COME HERE!

HEEL, YOU MANGY ANIMAL--HEEL!

THAT ONLY WORKS WITH DOGS, ROONEY!

NROW!

SHORTLY, AS ORDER WAS RESUMED...

"TO STEPHANIE MAJORS..."

STOP! HOLD EVERYTHING--!

--MY PLATINUM WATCH--IT'S GONE!

OH, COME NOW, LOU! IT PROBABLY FELL OFF WHILE YOU WERE CHASING MUFFIN! LOOK AROUND FOR IT!

PLEASE CONTINUE, MRS. PALMER...

"TO STEPHANIE MAJORS, MY DEVOTED SECRETARY AND TRAVELING COMPANION, I LEAVE MY SCRAPBOOK--SO THAT SHE CAN FOREVER REVEL IN THE GLORIES OF MY CAREER!"

WHY THAT CHEAP SO-AND-SO! AFTER ALL I--

THERE, THERE, STEPH--WAIT'LL YOU SEE WHAT MR. LOVABLE LEFT ME! PROBABLY A SELTZER BOTTLE AND A CREAM PIE!

"AND TO DAVID ROONEY, MY PARTNER OF SO MANY YEARS, WITHOUT WHOM MY CAREER WOULD MEAN NOTHING..."

HERE COMES THE ZINGER...

"...I LEAVE THE BULK OF MY ESTATE, PLUS *ONE MILLION DOLLARS* IN CASH!"

WHAAAT--?!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT--! *RAK* REALLY LEFT ME *EVERYTHING?*

THAT'S *RIGHT*, MR. ROONEY-- AND YOU'LL RECEIVE IT ALL ONE WEEK FROM TODAY, AFTER AN ADDITIONAL READING SPECIFIED IN A SECRET PORTION OF THE WILL!

FIND THE WATCH YET, *MR. EDWARDS?*

OF COURSE, *EDWARDS* NEVER *DID* FIND THE WATCH--BECAUSE *YOU* WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO KNEW WHERE IT WAS--

--IN THE ;OUCH; CHANDELIER WHERE *I* WAS HIDDEN!

BUT TO RETURN THE WATCH WOULD HAVE MEANT EXPLAINING WHAT *I* WAS DOING THERE... WATCHING THE PROCEEDINGS AT *YOUR* INVITATION!

BESIDES, *ONE* OF THOSE *FOUR* DELIBERATELY TOSSED IT UP THERE...AND I WANTED TO SEE *WHO* CAME TO GET IT!

EITHER *EDWARDS* HID IT HIMSELF, OR ONE OF THE OTHERS IS A *LIGHT-FINGERED LOUIE* WHO LIFTED IT WHILE CHASING THE CAT!

WHEN *EDWARDS* ACCUSED THE OTHERS OF STEALING THE WATCH--

--THEY INSISTED ON BEING SEARCHED-- BUT *NO SIGN* OF IT!

SPEAKING OF ROBBERIES; *STEPHANIE MAJORS* CALLED ME WHILE YOU WERE OUT! SOMEONE'S STOLEN THE *RAK SCRAP-BOOK!*

OH? THEN THAT MAKES IT *OBVIOUS* WHAT MY NEXT DESTINATION IS!

DIAL *ROBBY THORNTON* FOR ME, HONEY! I'M GOING TO STAKE OUT HIS *OSCAR*...

HLLLO..?

MR. THORNTON--

--THIS IS JEAN PALMER--

I COULD NEVER BEAT THE FLASH IN A FOOT-RACE, BUT I'LL BET OL' TELEPHONIC SPEED WOULD GIVE HIM A RUN FOR HIS MONEY!

--I'M CALLING TO WARN YOU THAT SOMEONE MAY TRY TO STEAL YOUR OSCAR!

LADY, IF SOMEBODY WANTS IT, HE CAN HAVE IT!

HE'D HAVE TO FIND IT FIRST! THIS PLACE LOOKS LIKE A GARBAGE DUMP WITH WALLS!

HMMPH! STEAL THE OSCAR! THE MILLION BUCKS I COULD UNDERSTAND!

NOW THAT'S SOMETHING WORTH GLOMMIN'!

THINK I'LL GO CHECK OUT THE ACTION AT THE DISCO!

HE'S GOT A POINT! WHY STEAL THE WATCH AND THE SCRAPBOOK--UNLESS IT'S A BUILDUP TO THE BIG PRIZE?

I THINK I CAN RULE OUT THORNTON--HE WOULDN'T HAVE THE AMBITION TO STEAL SOMETHING IF YOU PUT IT IN HIS HANDS!

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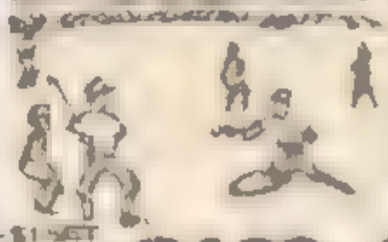

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WHICH LEAVES *EDWARDS*-- WHO HID THE WATCH FOR LORD KNOWS WHAT REASON...

...OR *STEPHANIE MAJORS*, WHOSE CAT CONVENIENTLY GOT *EXCITED*, CREATING THE *COVER* FOR A *THEFT* OF THE WATCH!

BOTH THOSE *SORE LOSERS* MUST'VE EXPECTED SOME OF THAT *MILLION!*

THE *DOOR*--! LOOKS LIKE I WON'T HAVE LONG TO PONDER THE PROBLEM!

COME IN, *MYSTERY GUEST*, AND SIGN IN!

I'LL GO *UNDER COVER*-- GIVE THE THIEF A CHANCE TO MAKE HIS...OR HER... *MOVE!*

NO SIGN OF THE *OSCAR* ANYWHERE! MAYBE *THORNTON* TUCKED IT UNDER HIS PILLOW!

THAT GROPING HAND ABOUT TO *GRAB* ME AGAIN--

--BUT *THIS TIME* I'LL HANDLE IT *BETTER!*

GOT IT--!

NOBODY SHORT OF *SUPERMAN* IS GOING TO PICK UP A 180-POUND *ATOM* WITH ONE HAND!

EH? HOW HEAVY *IS* THIS THING?

WHA- THE ATOM?!

MIND TAKING THAT LIGHT OUT OF MY EYES--?

THERE-- THAT'S BETTER!

WHOK!

THIS'LL KEEP HIM UNDER WRAPS TILL I FIND THAT OSCAR!

WHAT IS THIS ROUTINE? FROM BRIGHT LIGHTS TO BLACKOUT IN ONE EASY STEP!

FOUND A HOLE IN THE BLANKET TO GET THROUGH--

THUMP!

OOMPH!

GOTCHA!

THAT BOWL OF MUSH--!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK--

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--SIZE AND WEIGHT CHANGES COME THROUGH AGAIN!

SMASH!

NIGHTY-NIGHT!

ATOM--! AND... WHO--?

DAVID ROONEY! TALK ABOUT YOUR LEAST-LIKELY SUSPECT!

BUT WHY?!

THAT QUESTION REMAINED UNANSWERED UNTIL A WEEK LATER...

...AS JEAN READS THE ADDITIONAL PART OF THE WILL OF JOSEPH RAK...

"...AND IF ANY OR ALL OF THE BEQUESTS I LEFT TO THE OTHERS ARE IN THE POSSESSION OF *DAVID ROONEY*, AS I *FULLY* EXPECT THEM TO BE...

"...MY ESTATE SHALL BE DIVIDED EQUALLY AMONG *LOU EDWARDS*, ***STEPHANIE MAJORS*** AND ***ROBBY THORNTON!***"

NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL *FAIR!*

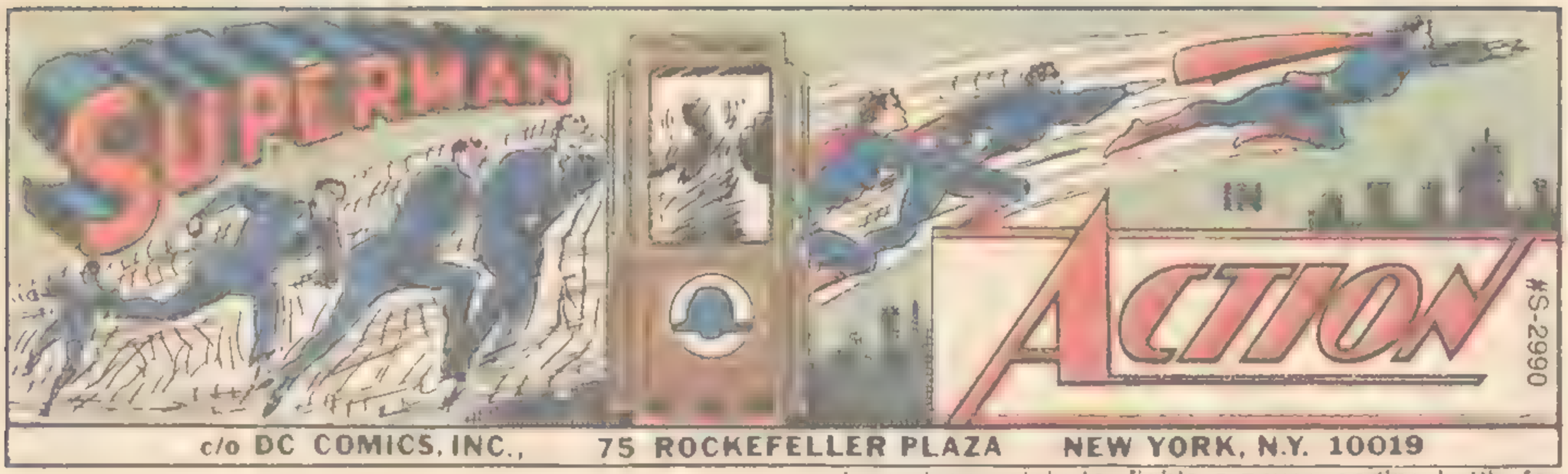
BUT WHY WAS *RAK* SO SURE *ROONEY* WOULD STEAL THE *WATCH*... AND THE OTHER GIFTS?

HE WORKED WITH THE MAN FOR ***FIFTY YEARS!*** HE KNEW HOW *ROONEY* FELT...AND HOW HIS EX-PARTNER WOULD REACT TO OTHERS GETTING THOSE "*MEMENTOS*" OF *THEIR CAREER!*

RIGHT, *ROONEY*?

YEAH, YEAH--BUT I *SHOULD* HAVE GOTTEN *EVERYTHING!* WITHOUT *ROONEY*, RAK WAS NOTHING--NOTHING!

...WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT YOU'VE GOT ***NOW!***



Now you've done it! You readers swamped us with so many fine letters, pro and con, on our 40th Anniversary Issue and the story "Superman Takes a Wife" that we just had to wangle an extra page to run the best ones. That's why this issue has two pages of praises and put-downs

Dear DC:

I must admit I liked a lot of things about *ACTION* 484, from the cover to the text feature, "Two Men of Tomorrow."

The cover, by Garcia Lopez and Dick Giordano, was beautiful, well-balanced (not cluttered) and pleasing to the eye. It was very clever of you to reprint (in miniature) the cover of *ACTION* #1, whereon *Superman* was lifting a car high above his head, because it was nicely paralleled by this issue's cover, with *Superman* not only lifting a car (complete with tin cans and a "Just Married" streamer—a nice touch!) but also his new bride, Lois Lane. In short, the two covers seem to be conveying a message: namely, how *Superman* has developed over the decades.

The story, of course, was well-written. I liked the idea that Clark's subconscious mind allowed him to fully express his love for Lois as a result of his forgetting he was *Superman*. Most of all, I liked the marriage vows of the Clark-Lois wedding (nice and traditional) and the beautiful and simple vows exchanged by *Superman* and Lois. The best of both eras. Wonderful, really.

Finally, the art seemed a cut above the usual, with Joe Giella inking Curt Swan's pencils. I particularly liked the splash page, the bottom panels on page 12, the wedding scene on page 14, the top panels on page 20, and the wedding scene on page 22, complete with statues of Jor-L and Lora and the Jewel of Truth and Honor.

All in all, it was a fitting tribute to the 40th anniversary of *Superman's* first appearance, and the entire issue was a well-balanced work of traditional and modernistic artistic expression. Thank you.

Stephen Siegfortji
5K Lake Ridge Place
Cockeysville, MD 21030

. . . . .

Dear Editor:

Look! Up on the stands!
It's some art!
It's some weirdo!
It's Super-Copout!

Yes, it's Super-Copout, strange invention of another dimension which comes to minds whose cowardly inability far exceeds that of mortal editors.

Super-Copout, who can change the course of Supie's life, crush hopes in his bare hands, and who, disguised as Earth-Two junk, mild-mannered garbage the editor clung desperately to, fights a never-ending battle for change that is no change—and you've ruined my day!

Kurt Fowler
Jacksonville, FL

. . . . .

Dear Editor:

Due to the nature of "Superman Takes a Wife," in *ACTION* #484, you will probably get a lot of letters calling the wedding a rip-off and the whole thing a cheap trick. Well, if you think about it, it wasn't anything of the sort. For instance, the cover proclaims that "In the first issue of *ACTION, Superman* did this astounding feat . . . now, he performs his most sensational feat . . ." The *Superman* of *ACTION* #1 was not the Man of Steel who now graces its pages, but the one who was featured in this story. Nowhere did you claim *Superman* of Earth-One got married, but most people would assume he was the intended victim—er—groom. Okay, so it's not the most truthful advertising, but it's not an out-and-out lie, either.

I had figured out what was going on almost as soon as the wedding was announced, so I was fully prepared to read a flashback story to the day when Clark and Lois of Earth-Two got married. That self-preparation helped too, because I was not disappointed in the least. While much of the story was nostalgic, it **was** so without becoming drippy; that is, the nostalgia was in the background only and did not take command of the story. Jimmy Olsen actually saying "Jeepers," Lois trying to prove Clark was *Superman*, George Taylor and the *Daily Star*, and Lois' sister and niece at the wedding all brought back memories of the early days of *Superman* without taking the time to fill the newer readers in on what they meant. My favorite of all the nostalgia, though, was Lois' comment about Clark's spine on page 8. That whole page, in fact, was straight out of the '40's, right down to Clark's ungentlemanly behavior.

Both the villains were good, but I found it easier to enjoy The Wizard than Colonel Future, The Wizard has a certain magic about him, if you'll pardon the pun, which makes him interesting in stories set in the present and the past. Perhaps the best definition is style. Example: When he first met Col. Future, The Wizard did not react with rage as many super-villains would have, but countered Future's show of force with his own show. Future seemed at first to be your typical unflappable bad guy, shrugging off The Wizard's trick with almost no notice. Later, when *Superman* returned, he became as nervous as a little kid caught with his hand in the cookie jar. I could have liked him more if he had been portrayed in a consistent manner.

I was genuinely surprised by the adult Lois who was shown throughout the story. I figured we'd be "treated" to the same old jealous, conniving, petty Lois who occupied the pages of comics for far too many years.

Instead, she was shown as a sensible woman who understood herself and her husband and didn't act like a teenager with a crush on an older man. The scenes wherein she discovered Clark's secret identity were excellent, even to the point where she felt she had to leave Clark for *Superman's* sake. *Supes* also showed a lot of sense by not dodging out of marriage with the old "but you'll be in constant danger" ploy. I hope they both keep that sense in their upcoming series in *SUPERMAN.*

Mike White
207 W. Fast
Mackinaw, IL 61755

* * * * *

Dear Cary:

Today I purchased *ACTION* #484 and the strangest things began to happen almost immediately. New York City proclaimed its finances are prospering so well it's begun lending millions to other cities. Archie Bunker took a taxi home from work early so he could surprise Edith with a nine-course gourmet dinner he'd cooked himself. Detroit unveiled a new car actually built to last after the warranty runs out. In Washington, Congress passed a law making it illegal for parents to give their children an allowance of under $35 a week. In London on this very special day, The Beatles reunited for a command performance before the Royal Family . . . in fact, the Queen herself joined the madcap foursome on stage, singing two-part harmony with Paul. The latest NASA probe landed on Mars, photographing Ray Bradbury and his family driving across the Martian desert in their new mobile home. Back on Earth, weather forecasters began to make five-day predictions that proved 100% accurate. Elton John donated 700 pairs of his glasses to Mt. Palomar Observatory and began wearing contact lenses. Chewing gum manufacturers only charged a nickel . . .

. . . and I read one of the best *Superman*-Lois wedding stories of all time, a story epic in its dimensions because this "imaginary" story actually happened (albeit on Earth-Two). I look with much excitement and anticipation to the upcoming *Mr. and Mrs. Superman* feature. Jerry, Joe and Mort must be proud of you.

Dave Blanchard
2709 Woodside Dr.
Rockford, IL 61109

* * * * *

Dear Editor:

Gee, I hope you folks don't get the idea that I'm down on *Superman*—but here's another critical letter—this time about *ACTION* #484.

The plot was adequate, that is, it didn't leave me hanging in unsuspended disbelief—*until* Lois found The Wizard on a park bench. I just couldn't believe he had sunk so low. Even children deserve more credible characterization than this. But all in all, the story was enjoyable. I think the best part was when Lois broke the scissors on *Superman's* curls. The scene had all the elements of a Greek myth.

A little aside to Cary Bates: Every time I see your name, I remember the newspaper headline Terry Austin sneaked into *THE DEFENDERS* a while back: "Cary Bates Writhes in Pain"—what can it mean?

Finally, I have one of those nagging feminist objections you have come to know and love. Yes, I know *Mr. and Mrs. Superman* has a nice catchy commercial ring to it, but I don't like it one bit. I'm sure you can figure out why. *Mr. and Ms. Kent* is closer to the truth, but obviously unexciting. *Mr. and Ms. Superperson* gives me a good laugh. *Mr. and Ms. Superman* sounds about right, though I would prefer *The Adventures of Kal and Lois,* or *Lois and Superman,* or *I Married a Kryptonian,* or even *Cary Bates Writhes in Pain.* Think about it, fellow humans. Or is Earth-Two the last hold-out of male chauvinism?

Cat Yronwode
Route 1
Box 43
Mountain Grove, MO 65711

The problem is, the series is set in the past, before the abbreviation "Ms." was popularized. And about that headline: we looked it up, and found that, though it's obscured in part, what it really says is "Cary Bates Writes Again"—which makes much more sense!—ENB

* * * * *

Dear Mr. Schwartz:

Ah-ha! You tricked us!

Why, this isn't the *Superman* we know at all! It's the *Superman* of Earth-Two who has "taken a wife"! Although I usually don't like to have the wool pulled over my eyes, this time I want to thank you for it.

Despite my cries for a Clark/Lois marriage for years, I was more than a bit unnerved when I found out they were soon to tie the knot. What would this mean to our hero? Would Lois have to quit her newspaper job? Would they have children? I began to doubt whether it was such a great idea after all! Now we will still be able to read the stories we've waited for without obligation—in other words, if it doesn't work out, you can always drop the series, and if it does—who knows what could develop for Earth-One's favorite super-hero?

The story was reminiscent of *Superman's* golden days: simple and exciting. Colonel Future intrigues me. I hope future plots will tell us more about this ruthless villain. I loved The Wizard! He was incredibly powerful, yet with a very human side. I felt genuinely sorry when *Superman* put him in prison.

Lois' part in this drama was a vital one indeed. She proved strong and level-headed as she used to be. And the story added a maturity and sensitivity which was never fully developed before. Clark is totally without any recollection of his secret identity—and it is Lois' ingenuity and selflessness that saves him!

Now for those subtle inconsistencies which appear in all such epics. Is *Superman* flying? In recent issues of *ALL-STAR,* he only leaped. I hope, however, he continues to fly as he has done throughout most of his career. Also, Lois' hair fluctuated between very short and shoulder length. (Love that old style!)

Despite these minor errors, this is one of the most exciting and outstanding comics I have read. Let's see more like this one!

Georjean Fraina
12 Green St.
Trumbull, CT 06611

Yes. Superman *flies, though his cousin,* Power Girl, *only leaps—but she's young and her powers not fully developed. And don't forget the story happened over a year's time, which could account for the hair.—E. Nelson Bridwell*

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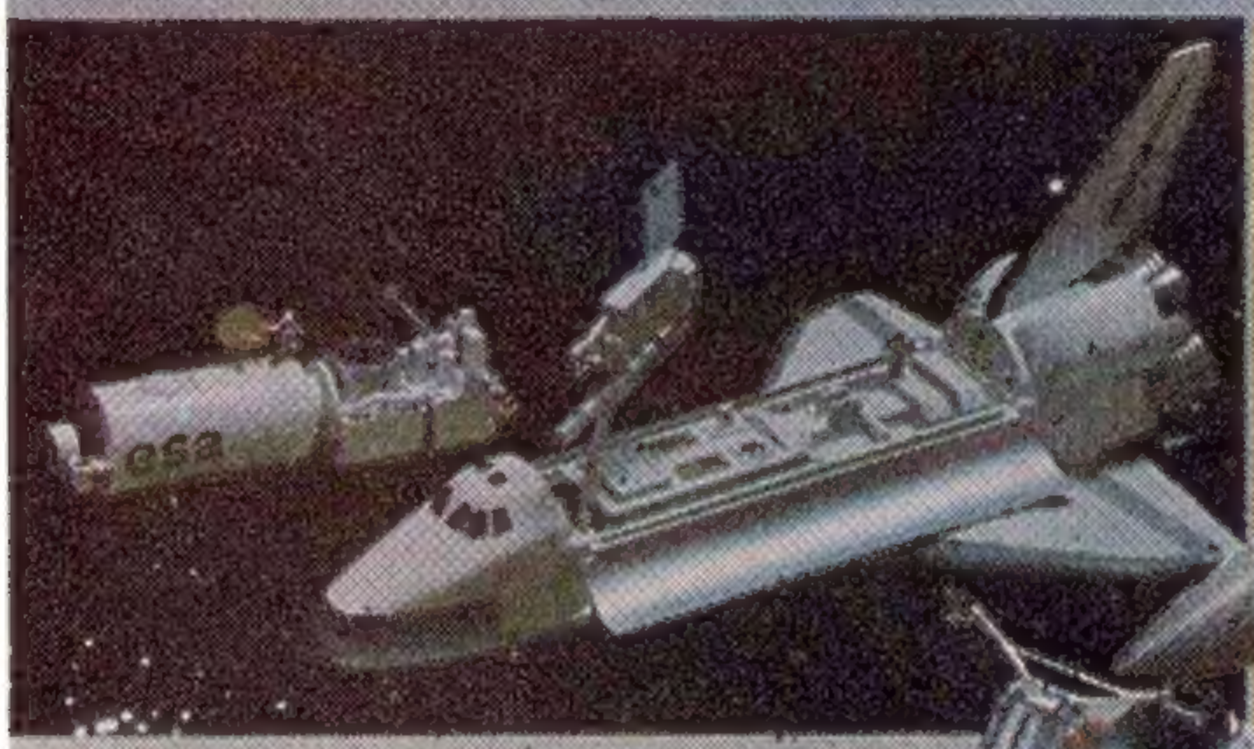
Right. Down to the last detail.



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AS THE SATURN DISCO DANCE CONTEST REACHES A FEVERISH PITCH:

THE WAY I PLAN IT, THIS PLANET WILL BE DESTROYED WHEN I HIT THEM WITH THE DEATH RAY HIDDEN IN MY DIRTY DANCING SNEAKERS!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, ***DIRTY SNEAKER***? THIS BOOGIE CONTEST ISN'T OPEN TO *BOOGEY MEN!*

HA! ***AAU SHUPERSTAR*** DOESN'T KNOW MY ELECTRONIC DEATH-RAY IS ACTIVATED BY THE SONG, "STAYIN' ALIVE"! AS SOON AS IT'S PLAYED, *NO ONE* BUT *ME* WILL BE STAYIN' ALIVE!

I'M GOING TO KEEP MY EYE ON THE ***DIRTY SNEAKER'S*** SNEAKERS! IF HE TAKES ONE FALSE STEP, I'LL TRIP HIM WITH MY ***SHUPERSTRUCTERED AAU SHOES!***

THIS IS IT! THE NEXT NUMBER WILL BE "STAYIN' ALIVE"! WHEN THE MUSIC STARTS, THE DEATH-RAY WILL SELF-ACTIVATE!

MY ***SHUPERNATURAL*** POWERS TELL ME THERE'S TROUBLE AFOOT ***NOW!***

WITH ONE SWIFT KICK, ***AAU SHUPERSTAR*** ELIMINATES ***THE DIRTY SNEAKER!***

OUCH! THAT MADE ME SEE STARS! OOOH.... I'M FADING INTO THE UNIVERSE.... GOING INTO ANOTHER ORBIT... OFF, OFF, OFF INTO SPACE....

ZOOOM

POW!

MY ***AAU SHOES*** HAVE TURNED YOU INTO SPACE GARBAGE, ***DIRTY SNEAKER!*** GOODBYE FOREVER!

THANK YOU, ***AAU SHUPERSTAR!*** YOU AND YOUR ***AAU SHOES*** HAVE DONE A GOOD TURN FOR SATURN! WE'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!

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